



# Wisconsin Medicaid Fact Sheet

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## Community Waivers Program

The Medicaid Community Waivers Program helps elderly persons and persons who are blind or have disabilities to continue living in their own homes or in the community, rather than in state institutions or nursing homes. If you are eligible for Medicaid through the Community Waivers Program, Medicaid may pay for certain supportive services.

You may be eligible for Community Waivers if you are an elderly person or a person who is blind or has a disability and you:

- Meet income and asset requirements specific to the Community Waivers program (see “Income and Assets” below);
- Meet the same requirements used to qualify for Medicaid coverage of nursing home care;
- Are a citizen or qualified immigrant and are a resident of Wisconsin; and
- Live in your own home or in the community.

You may be eligible for Community Waivers if you already receive Medicaid or Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

### Income and Assets

If you do not already receive Medicaid or SSI, the following financial requirements may be used as guidelines. The income amounts may change slightly from year to year. The following amounts were effective beginning January 1, 2007.

- Your assets cannot total more than \$2,000.
- If your gross monthly income is \$1,869 or under, you may be eligible. You may have to pay a share of the medical costs, depending on your income.
- If your gross monthly income is more than \$1,869 but your medical expenses reduce your monthly income to less than \$592, you may be eligible. In most cases, you will have to spend a portion of your income on medical services each month before becoming eligible for Medicaid.

**Note:** If the applicant is a minor, only the child’s income and assets are counted.

If you live with your spouse and you are on a Community Waiver, your spouse’s income and many of your joint assets may be protected. Ask your local county/tribal human or social services agency for information on Spousal Impoverishment protection.

The financial requirement for minors is based on the child’s assets and income only. A minor child with a disability must also meet the non-financial criteria for Community Waivers.

**Cost-Sharing**

If you are a Community Waivers participant, you may have to pay some of your medical costs depending on your income. This is called “cost-sharing”. Only your income will be used to determine how much you have to pay.

The county/tribal human or social services agency in the county where you live will make the decision on your application for Medicaid Community Waivers. Ask about any of the requirements that are not clear to you.

**For More Information:**

- Contact Recipient Services at 1-800-362-3002 (TTY and translation services are available),
- Your local county/tribal human or social services agency or Medicaid outstation, or
- Visit the Department of Health and Family Services’ web site at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid1/publications.htm>.

Information provided in this document is general. To find out more detailed information regarding the Community Waivers Program, please contact your local county/tribal social or human services agency. To find the address of your local county/tribal human or social services agency or Medicaid outstation site visit the DHFS web site at <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/medicaid1/contacts> or call Recipient Services at 1-800-362-3002.

DHFS is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact (608) 266-3356 or (888) 701-1251 TTY. All translation services are free of charge.

For civil rights questions call (608) 266-9372 or (888) 701-1251 TTY.

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